Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-18 have been rejected. Claims 11-12 have been cancelled. Claims 19-20 are newly added.

Drawings

As requested, Fig. 3 has now been designated with the legend of "Prior Art."

Section 102/103 Rejections

Claims 1-16 have been rejected as being anticipated or obvious by Ottesen. Claims 17-18 have been rejected as being obvious in view of Ottesen and further in view of Blatter. Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are overcome for the reasons set forth below.

Amended <u>claim 1</u> includes features which are not anticipated or suggested by the cited references, namely:

- packet rate adjusting means of controlling a transfer rate of the stream by **adjusting an interval between packets** respectively **belonging to each frame** of the inputted stream;

Features of the packet rate adjusting means may be seen, for example, in Fig. 2. As shown, a frame may be transmitted during a time period designated as 13. The packets belonging to each frame are typically transmitted during a time interval designated as 14. The packet rate adjusting means controls transmission of the packets by slowing down the transfer of the packets, after the overflow warning signal 16 is received. As shown in Fig. 2, the packets that are normally transmitted during time period 14 are slowed down and transmitted during time period 15. All the packets are, however, transmitted during the same time period of frame 13.

As claimed, the invention provides means for controlling the transfer rate of the data stream by **adjusting the interval between packets that belong to each frame of the**

inputted stream. Because the present invention completes the transmission of all the packets of a frame within a normal frame time period, the present invention advantageously prevents the problem of images falling out as images are displayed.

Accordingly, the invention adjusts the transfer rate of the packets of a frame **during the interval between packets belonging to each frame,** but those packets are completely transmitted during each of the frame periods.

The Office Action states that Ottesen, at column 21, lines 25-31, discloses a set top controller that regulates a rate at which the compressed video signal stream is received from a multimedia server. Ottesen, however, does **not** disclose or suggest a **controller for adjusting the interval between packets belonging to each frame.** Favorable reconsideration is requested for claim 1.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and are, therefore, not subject to rejection in view of Ottesen for at least the same reasons set forth for claim 1. Favorable reconsideration is requested for these dependent claims.

Although not the same, claim 13 has been amended to include features similar to claim 1, namely:

- o   adjusting . . . the data transfer rate of the data stream . . . **by adjusting an interval between packets respectfully belonging to each frame** . . . .

It is respectfully submitted that Ottesen, as previously discussed, does not disclose adjusting a data transfer rate from a reproduction device **by adjusting the interval between packets respectfully belonging to each frame.** Favorable reconsideration is requested for amended claim 13.

Dependent claims 14-18 depend from amended claim 13 and are, therefore, not subject to rejection in view of Ottesen for at least the same reasons set forth for amended claim 13. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Newly Added Dependent Claims 19-20

Dependent claim 20 further limits amended claim 13 by reciting the following feature:

- the **interval between packets . . . is a value of remaining time to the start of next frame _divided by_ number of packets not being transferred**.

Basis for newly added claim 20 may be seen, for example, in the specification, at the top of page 20. As shown, equation 1 calculates the interval between packets, which is adjusted to be equal to the **remaining time to the start of the next frame _divided by_ the number of packets not being transferred**. As shown in Fig. 2, the packets, which normally are transmitted during the time period designated as 14, are spaced over the remaining time period to the start of the next frame. More specifically, the last three packets shown in Fig. 2 are evenly spaced over the remaining interval, up to the start of the next frame. All the packets representing one picture frame, however, are transmitted during the time interval of frame 13.

Features of equation 1, as claimed in newly added claim 20, are not suggested by Ottesen or the other cited references. Favorable consideration is requested for newly added claim 20.

Although not the same, newly added <u>claim 19,</u> which depends from claim 1, recites features similar to claim 20. Favorable consideration is requested for claim 19 for the same reasons set forth for claim 20.
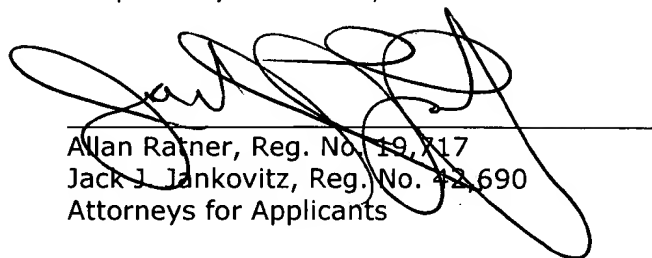
Appln. No.: 09/824,280
Amendment Dated: June 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: March 26, 2004

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Conclusion

Claims 1-10, 13-20 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

_____
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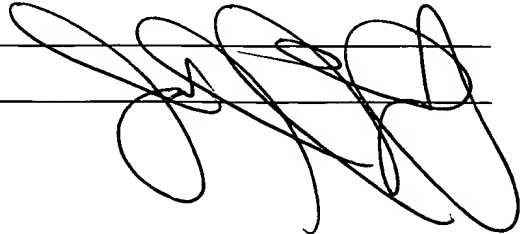Attorneys for Applicants

JJJ/ds

Attachments: Figure 3 (1 sheet)

Dated: June 23, 2004

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